

Washington State Specific Objectives for Paramedics



**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL
AND TRAUMA PREVENTION**

October 2002

Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic Definition:

"Physician's trained emergency medical service paramedic" means a person who:

- (a) Has successfully completed an emergency medical technician course as described in chapter 18.73 RCW;
- (b) Is trained under the supervision of an approved medical program director according to training standards prescribed in rule to perform specific phases of advanced cardiac and trauma life support under written or oral authorization of an approved licensed physician; and
- (c) Has been examined and certified as a physician's trained emergency medical service intermediate life support technician and paramedic, by level, by the University of Washington's school of medicine or the department of health.

Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Course Content:

The Department recognizes the United States Department of Transportation National Standard Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic training course curriculum as amended by the department. **Specific objectives added to the National Standard Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic curriculum are underlined.** These specific objectives are needed to meet Washington State Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic training requirements.

The following section contains specific objectives that Washington State added to the National Standard EMT-Paramedic curriculum. This curriculum may be obtained as a resource from the Office of Emergency Medical and Trauma Prevention web site shown below.

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsga/emstrauma/publications.htm>

Please review the following objectives. If you determine additional study or instruction is necessary to meet these training requirements, complete the following steps:

1. Study educational material pertinent to the objectives you must meet using the EMT-Paramedic curriculum from the web address listed above and Paramedic textbooks, or, receive training from a Paramedic Training agency or content area expert in those topic areas. If you do not personally have access to the Internet, most local libraries have access. In addition to the WSSOs, a list of required knowledge topics and where the information may be obtained is provided on the following page. .
2. When you have completed the necessary Washington State Specific Objectives (WSSOs) and feel comfortable that you are knowledgeable in these objectives, complete and sign the attached WSSO Affirmation Statement.
3. Return the WSSO Affirmation Statement with your other documentation to the address provided on the application. After eligibility is determined you may be approved to take the written examination.

Additional Required Knowledge Topics

1. In addition to the WSSOs provided in this document, paramedics seeking reciprocal certification in Washington State must be knowledgeable in additional Washington State EMS System information. The topics are listed below and include where the information may be obtained:
 - a. The Washington State Trauma Triage Tool – Appendix I of the Washington State Paramedic Curriculum available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/emstrauma/publications.htm>
 - b. Patient Care Procedures – information is included with the trauma triage information listed above.
 - c. EMS-No CPR – Appendix L of the Washington State Paramedic Curriculum available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/emstrauma/publications.htm>.
 - d. MPD protocols – Individuals must obtain protocol information from the County Medical Program Director (MPD) in the county they will be certified in.
 - e. Information regarding the Uniform Disciplinary Act (UDA) - Appendix K of the Washington State Paramedic Curriculum available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/emstrauma/publications.htm> and also available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/emstrauma/uda.htm>.
 - f. Use of Trauma Wrist Bands – Information regarding trauma wrist bands may be obtained from your MPD or EMS agency.

WASHINGTON STATE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AFFIRMATION STATEMENT

Before your EMS training can be approved, you must affirm that you understand the *Washington State-Specific Objectives* for the level of certification you are applying for. This is **required** knowledge for all certification candidates, and contains specific objectives that establish the standard for field performance in Washington State. Questions regarding these objectives are included in the written examination.

I understand that this information is vital to my ability to safely provide patient care in Washington State, and declare that I am knowledgeable in the Washington State-Specific Objectives for:

(Please circle one only)

FIRST RESPONDER

EMT

IV THERAPY TECHNICIAN

AIRWAY TECHNICIAN

IV/AIRWAY TECHNICIAN

ILS TECHNICIAN

ILS/AIRWAY TECHNICIAN

PARAMEDIC

Print Name

Date

Applicant Signature

**Washington State Specific Objectives
To Be Added To EMT-Paramedic Courses
Conducted in Washington State**

Extracted from the
Emergency Medical Technician -Paramedic - National Standard Curriculum
Washington State Amended Edition - Revised January 2000

Module 1 – Preparatory

Lesson 1-4: Medical/ Legal Issues

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

1-1.4 - Identify and explain the importance of laws pertinent to the paramedic. (C-1)

Note: Refer to Appendix K for Information regarding the Uniform Disciplinary Act, Revised Code of Washington and the Washington Administrative Code

Lesson 1-9: Venous Access and Medication Administration

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

1-9.7 - Describe how to perform mathematical conversions from the household system to the metric system. (C-1)

Module 2 - Airway

Lesson 2-1: Airway Management and Ventilation

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

2-1.65 - Describe the indications, contraindications, advantages, disadvantages, complications and equipment for rapid sequence intubation with neuromuscular blockade. (C-1)

2-1.66 - Identify neuromuscular blocking drugs and other agents used in rapid sequence intubation. (C-1)

2-1.67 - Describe indications, contraindications, advantages, disadvantages, complications, equipment and technique for retrograde intubation. (C-1)

2-1.68 - Describe the indications, contraindications, advantages, disadvantages, complications and equipment for sedation during intubation. (C-1)

2-1.69 - Identify sedative agents used in airway management. (C-1)

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

2.1.105 - Intubate the trachea by the following methods: (P-2)

- a. Orotracheal intubation
- b. Nasotracheal intubation
- c. Multi-lumen airways
- d. Digital intubation
- e. Transillumination
- f. Retrograde intubation
- g. Open cricothyrotomy – Lab training recommended to insure **competence**

Module 3 – Patient Assessment

Lesson 3-5: Communications

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

3-5.12 - State the importance of data collection during an EMS event. (C-1)

NOTE: Address the Washington State Collector Training Program

Module 4 – Trauma

Lesson 4-3: Soft Tissue Trauma

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

4-3.51 - Demonstrate the assessment and management of a patient with signs and symptoms of soft tissue injury, including: (P-2)

- a. Contusion
- b. Hematoma
- c. Crushing
- d. Abrasion
- e. Laceration
- f. Major arterial lacerations
- g. Incisions
- h. Avulsion
- i. Amputations
- j. Impaled object
- k. Penetrations/ punctures
- l. Blast injuries
- m. Crush injuries

Lesson 4-5: Head and Facial Trauma

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

4-5.67 - Provide a trauma score for traumatic injuries using the Glasgow Coma Scale (C-2)

Lesson 4-6: Spinal Trauma

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

4-6.33 - Demonstrate preferred methods for stabilization of a helmet from a potentially spine injured patient, including patients with shoulder pads. (P-1)

4-6.35 - Demonstrate alternative methods for stabilization of a helmet from a potentially spine injured patient, including patients with shoulder pads. (P-1)

Lesson 4-7: Thoracic Trauma

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

4-7.21 - Discuss the pathophysiology of vascular injuries, including injuries to: (C-1)

- a. Aorta
- b. Vena cava
- c. Pulmonary arteries/ veins
- d. Subclavian
- e. Intercostal

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

4-7.50 - Demonstrate the following techniques of management for thoracic injuries: (P-1)

- a. Needle decompression
- b. Fracture stabilization
- c. Elective intubation
- d. ECG monitoring
- e. Oxygenation and ventilation
- f. Pericardial Centesis
- g. Occlusive chest dressings

Lesson 4-8: Abdominal Trauma

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 4-8.31 - Describe the assessment findings associated with other related abdominal injuries including abdominal injuries to the pregnant patient. (C-1)
- 4-8.32 - Describe the treatment plan and management of other related abdominal injuries including abdominal injuries to the pregnant patient. (C-1)

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 4-8.44 - Demonstrate management of open abdominal injuries (P-1)

Module 5 – Medical

Lesson 5-3: Neurology

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 5-3-18 - Discuss the management/treatment plan of seizures. (C-1)

Lesson 5-4: Endocrinology

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 5-4.77 - Explain the interaction and communication strategies for a patient with altered level of consciousness (A-2)
- 5-4.78 - Explain the interaction and communication strategies for a patient who returns from an altered level of consciousness (A-2)

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 5-4.79 - Demonstrate the use of glucose monitoring equipment. (P-1)

Lesson 5-7: Renal/Urology

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to

- 5-7.32 - Demonstrate a professional, caring attitude when performing initial assessment for renal/urological conditions. (A-3)
- 5-7.33 - Attend to feelings that patients with acute and chronic renal and urological conditions may have. (A-1)

- 5-7.34 - Value the need for maintaining a professional, caring attitude when performing history, physical examination and treatment of patient. (A3)
- 5-7.35 - Attend to need for emotional support surrounding needs of the acute and chronic renal and urological patient. (A-1)
- 5-7.36 - Recognize and appreciate the many impediments to physical and emotional well being of the renal and urological patient. (A-1)

Lesson 5-8: Toxicology

COGNITIVE

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 5-8.17 - Describe the uses, street names, pharmacology, physical finding and management of patients who have been exposed to the following substances: (C-1)
- Marijuana and cannabis compounds
 - Stimulants (amphetamines, cocaine, Ketamine, methamphetamines, PCP)
 - Hallucinogens (LSD, jimson weed, mescaline)
 - Sedative-hypnotics (barbiturates, benzodiazepines, gamma-hydroxybutyrate)
 - Cyanide
 - Narcotics/ opiates
 - Cardiac medications
 - Caustics
 - Pesticides (organophosphates, carbimates, paraquat, warfarin)
 - Drugs abused for sexual purposes/ sexual gratification
 - Carbon monoxide
 - Hydrogen Sulfide
 - Alcohols (Ethanol, Ethylene Glycol, Isopropanol, Methanol)
 - Hydrocarbons
 - Antipsychotic medications
 - Tricyclic anti-depressants
 - Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)
 - Lithium
 - MAO inhibitors
 - Non-prescription opioid like pain medications
 - Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents
 - Salicylates
 - Acetaminophen
 - Diphenhydramine
 - Antiasthma medications
 - Heavy Metals (Arsenic, Iron, Lead, Mercury)
 - Plants and mushrooms
- 5-8.18 - Define adverse drug reactions (C1)
- Describe dystonic reactions and the common causes
 - Describe serotonin syndrome and the common causes
 - Describe neuroleptic malignant syndrome and common causes

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

5-8.21 - Demonstrate the ability to integrate the history, assessment findings, and knowledge of pathophysiology to formulate an appropriate management plan for poisoned patients. (P-3)

Module 6 – Special Considerations

Lesson 6-5: Acute Interventions for the Chronic Care Patient

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

6-5.12 - Discuss the Washington State EMS No-CPR program (See Appendix L) (C-1)

Module 8 – Operations

Lesson 8-2: Medical Incident Command

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

- 8-2.13 - List and describe the functions of the following groups and leaders in ICS as it pertains to EMS incidents: (C-1)
- a. Safety
 - b. Logistics
 - c. Rehabilitation (rehab) - List components of Rehabilitation and identify the paramedic's role in rehabilitation (C-1)
 - d. Staging
 - e. Treatment
 - f. Triage
 - g. Transportation
 - h. Extrication/ rescue
 - i. Disposition of deceased (morgue)
 - j. Communications

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

8-2.40 - Demonstrate the proper role and procedures during rehabilitation. (P-1)

Lesson 8-3: Rescue Awareness and Operations

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to

8-3.44 - Recognize the fear of the entrapped patient (A-1)

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student should be able to:

8-3.54 - Demonstrate how you would approach a patient exposed to a hazardous material. (P-1)

Lesson 8-4: Hazardous Materials Incidents

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

8-4.10 - List and explain the common signs, symptoms and treatment for the following substances: (C-1)

- a. Corrosives (acids/ alkalis)
- b. Pulmonary irritants (ammonia/ chlorine)
- c. Pesticides (carbamates/ organophosphates)
- d. Chemical asphyxiants (cyanide/ carbon monoxide)
- e. Hydrocarbon solvents (xylene, methylene chloride)

8-4.11 - Explain the potential risk associated with invasive procedures performed on contaminated patients. (C-1)

8-4.12 - Given a contaminated patient determine the level of decontamination necessary and: (C-1)

- a. Level of rescuer PPE
- b. Decontamination methods
- c. Treatment
- d. Transportation and patient isolation techniques

8-4.14 - Determine the hazards present to the patient and paramedic given an incident involving hazardous materials. (C-2)

- a. NOTE: - Under certain conditions, the following substances may also be considered hazardous materials: (C-1)
- b. Cyanide
- c. Caustics
- d. Common household substances
- e. Alcohols
- f. Hydrocarbons
- h. Plants and mushrooms

8-4.19 - Determine the appropriate level of PPE to include: (C-1)

- a. Types, application, use and limitations
- b. Use of chemical compatibility chart

8-4.20 - Explain decontamination procedures when functioning in the following modes: (C-1)

- a. Critical patient rapid two step decontamination process
- b. Non-critical patient eight step decontamination process

8-4.21 - Explain specific decontamination procedures. (C-1)

8-4.22 - Explain the four most common decontamination solutions used to include: (C-1)

- a. Water
- b. Water and tincture of green soap
- c. Isopropyl alcohol
- d. Vegetable oil

8-4.23 - Identify the areas of the body difficult to decontaminate to include: (C-1)

- a. Scalp/ hair
- b. Ears/ ear canals/ nostrils
- c. Axilla
- d. Finger nails
- e. Navel
- f. Groin/ buttocks/ genitalia
- g. Behind knees
- h. Between toes, toe nails

8-4.24 - Explain the medical monitoring procedures of hazardous material team members to be used both pre and post entry, to include: (C-1)

- a. Vital signs
- b. Body weight
- c. General health
- d. Neurologic status
- e. ECG

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to:

8-4.29 - Recognize the fear of the patient contaminated by hazardous material (A-1)

PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this lesson, the paramedic student will be able to:

8-4.33 - Demonstrate how you would approach a patient exposed to a hazardous material. (P-1)

8-4.34 - Demonstrate how to protect the patient during decontamination (P-1)

Lesson 8-5: Crime Scene Awareness

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to:

8-5.5 - Explain EMS considerations for the following types of violent or potentially violent situations: (C-1)

- a. Gangs and gang violence
- b. Hostage/ sniper situations
- c. Clandestine drug labs
 - 1. Permanent
 - 2. Mobile
- d. Domestic violence
- e. Emotionally disturbed people
- f. Hostage/ sniper situations